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Maricopa County Animal Care and Control



Trailin' Tails Newsletter

Lost Pets in Maricopa County

If you lost one of your beloved family pets, what would you do? Would you know where to look? Many furry family members go missing from their homes every day. It causes sadness, fear, and anxiety.

Bereft families will search their neighborhoods, put up flyers, and ask their neighbors to be on the lookout. But many worried families do not search at the most important place – the animal shelter.

Close to 100,000 dogs and cats are taken to Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) and Arizona Humane Society each year, and only a small percentage of those animals are surrendered by their owners. Most dogs and cats brought in are listed as strays. However, most of them are loveable, social, previously cared-for animals.

Last year, MCACC took in more than 46,000 dogs and cats. Only 4,690 pets (4,634 dogs and 56 cats) were reunited with their owners. Maybe pet parents

don't know where to look for their lost pets. MCACC wants people to know about our shelters and that MCACC wants to return pets to their families, and to find new, forever homes for the pets whose families don't come.

Many of the lost pets in Maricopa County sit anxiously alone in a kennel waiting for their families to come find them. The lucky ones will find a second family to love them. Some will sit for days or weeks, waiting. They may become ill, or develop behavior problems and could find themselves in danger of euthanasia.

That wouldn't happen if people know where to look for their pets. It wouldn't happen if the pets had ID tags on them, or microchips implanted in them.

Please license your dog and place an ID tag on your cat. Get your pets micro-chipped for added security. Visit the local shelters to look for your lost family member. Tell your friends and family to do the same.

Help us help the lost pets of Maricopa County.



Daisy Mae, one of the MCACC dogs who needed a home. She was taken on the radio and got her forever home!

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12 K's Of Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 10 — Freestone District Park

(Lindsay and Juniper Roads in Gilbert)



Please join us for the third 12 K's of Christmas to celebrate good health and the holidays. Come for the run or just to get in the holiday mood with carolers and some fun holiday shopping!

- 12 K and 6 K Run/Walk (chip-timed)
- 1.2 K Team Sled Run
- Run in a sea of Santa's
- Dress up and win a prize
- Carolers at every K
- Santa's Pet Village
- Christmas Bazaar
- Join Team Santa Paws for VIP treatment

www.12krun.com

480-609-3978



One of the many dogs that have come through our doors needing a new home—he got one!

Dangerous Foods for your pet

Mushrooms

Chocolate

Macadamia Nuts

Grapes

Raisins

Onions

Garlic

Avocados

Candy

Fatty Foods

Salt

Coffee (any caffeine)

Alcohol

Veterinarian's Corner : Being an Island Veterinarian

This past August, I went on a Mission trip to Fiji. What an awesome experience! I went not knowing exactly what I would be doing, but I did not hide the fact that I work with dogs and cats. When I arrived my list of duties looked like this: please assess the health of the 2 horses and let us know if we should keep them around; look at the pig sties and let us know what needs to be changed; look at Pilot (the dog) and tell us how long he will live; go down to the SPCA and pick out 3 guard dogs (I had assumed the pastor meant adult dogs that would be good guard dogs as well as good around children); sterilize the 3 "wild" cats on campus; teach the girls animal care; talk to the guy that raises the chickens and convince him to let them roam free; and the list went on.

There are no real fences in Fiji so the horses (and any cows) are tied to some part of the rainforest with a lariat. The girls that took me to see the horses would not get within 50 feet of the horses. I noted that the horses were much smaller than the ones that I see where I keep my horse.

The pigs were cute and friendly, like a dog wanting to be petted. For pig accommodations I can only imagine that the sties were nice — they were a little small but when I compared what the Fijian people were living in I could say they were very spacious.

Pilot is a 9-year-old, 60 pound dog (don't ask breed- I would have to say Island mongrel). He is slow getting up and down the hill, but still goes for walks with the pastor's wife and spends the night out "guarding" the compound. He barks at anyone that comes in after the gate is closed but doesn't get any meaner than that. I would think that he still has a few years left.

The cats surprised me the most. They are "wild" only in that they don't have an owner (which is how most of the dogs and cats live). They are friendly to everyone and spend most of their time catching rodents and lizards. They also head up to the kitchen in the evening to eat anything the kids drop on the floor. Two of the three cats had to be 10 months old and weighed 3 pounds, the one that was over a year was maybe 5 pounds. Besides being small, they are like the cats we see here. Their surgeries were uneventful though the conditions for me was very different - surgery on a work bench for the farm.

The SPCA was very interesting. A converted auto shop- from the 40's! Cages were set up in the carports (one wall and a roof) with chain-link dividers. Full of Island dogs, no small breeds were seen. I found out there are only 3 breeds that have true lines on the island - Rottweilers, Dobermans, and German Shepherds. There was only 1 litter of pups and they are the only ones that I thought would make good "guard" dogs but they would need training. I let the pastor know.

Working with the girls that was very rewarding. None of them are comfortable working with any animal. The best they do is call one of the dogs to come clean up a spill in the kitchen area, then backing away as the dog comes close. By our standards, the dogs are well behaved. I hope that watching us petting the dogs and letting them sit close by will help them break through their fears.

By the way, I never talked to the guy about the chickens and only looked at the coops from a distance. They get 150 eggs a day from 90 chickens - they don't need me to mess up a good thing.



The Veterinarian's Corner is written by Dr. Monika Durgin, MCACC's Chief Veterinarian.

Big Boy Gets His Forever Home

Big Boy is a sweet, 7 year old, 98 pound Great Dane/Shar Pei mix. He came to the shelter in January 2011. He had a microchip, but it led nowhere. He is a very loving, laid back dog. He was put up for adoption and patiently waited for his new family. While



stepped forward to pay for his surgery which included pins and a metal plate. Big Boy spent his recovery time in the Shelter Manager's Office, overnights with our Dispatch, and weekends at another employee's house with four kids. 12 weeks later, he was deemed healthy.

staff fell in love with his amazing and fun personality, people looked right past him, maybe due to his age, or his size. He finally got adopted three weeks later. He was back 10 days after that, wagging his tail, looking happy to see everyone, but with a swollen, twisted front paw. MCACC medical staff confirmed he had a broken leg. Without an x-ray machine, we did not know how bad it was.

One employee decided to take Big Boy to their personal vet and figure out how to pay for it later. An x-ray confirmed multiple serious fractures, a dislocation and a crushed dew-claw. An anonymous donor

Big Boy is a calm, relaxed dog. He likes to hang out with people and chill. He loves to carry around squeaky toys and is very well-behaved. He gets along with everyone from small children to older adults. He is great with all dogs, but does have a lot of interest in cats. MCACC sent out a plea to the public to help him find a new forever home. We had many people respond with wonderful letters about how they will care for Big Boy. After interviews and much discussion, we are proud to say that Big Boy is now being spoiled in his forever home.



One of the many cats MCACC has taken in needing a forever home.

Spay and neuter your pets

Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC takes in over 46,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets!

*Please visit us on the web at:
www.pets.maricopa.gov
for more information.*

Dog Washing Day

On a warm Wednesday morning, 70 dogs housed at Maricopa County Animal Care and Control received some special treatment—baths. Four volunteers came in on a day when the west valley center is closed for adoptions and decided to clean up. Many dogs come to the shelter dirty and smelly. Sometimes that can detract from them being adopted. Staff is so busy, they are unable to bathe animals. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers, we have a fresher, cleaner shelter and animals.





MCACC took in over 46,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!



Check out our videos on You Tube:: <http://www.youtube.com/MaricopaAnimalCare>

Rabies Clinic

Specials: \$20

West and East Shelter:

Sunday 11am — 5:30 pm

West Shelter:

Tues & Thur 9 am — 11am

East Shelter:

Tues & Wed 9 am—11 am

Abandoned Dog's Lucky Day

This tiny, thin white Husky or Shepherd mix appeared in the park rather suddenly one evening in April. Park staff believes she was abandoned. The dog was frightened and confused. Three people tried to approach her and secure her, but she was too scared. They tried to put a collar on her, she bit one of the people trying to help her and she ran off. The next day she was back at the park. Another person spent some time trying to gain her trust and get her on a leash. She succeeded.

Due to the bite, the dog did have to spend 10 days at MCACC to monitor her for rabies. However, she was approved for adoption to the person who found her the second day. She was very frightened, didn't trust anyone, and wouldn't even eat anything. Below is a note for Onion's new owner:

"It has now been a month since Onion got rescued, and she is doing well. She is gaining confidence

quickly and actually joins the rest of the gang in greeting people when they come over. She likes going for walks and exploring; and she loves watching the 'shark' pool chlorinator.

She plays pranks on people as well as the other dogs — Noah and I seem to be her favorite targets.

Onion has also made several efforts to 'make' some of the cats play with her by stabbing them with her nose and trying to get them to chase her.

She has gained weight and strength, though she plays so hard she uses-up her reserves pretty quickly.

Getting her to eat double portions at dinner on walk-days and heavy-play days seems to be helping.

Thanks again everybody at MCACC and Gilbert Crime Prevention for helping me be able to rescue her from the euthanasia list and adopt her!"



Pictured above: Onion, on her second day; a week later, playing with her new family; watching the pool chlorinator

KEEP MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET WHILE HELPING HOMELESS ANIMALS

Daily Deal USA

We are partnering with **Daily Deal USA** to offer a FANTASTIC new fundraiser!

If you sign up for their free program, using our referral code, you'll get daily email offers of HUGE savings of 50-95% from local businesses in your neighborhood, plus an instant \$5 to spend. FREE, with no obligation!

If you do decide to buy a deal, **Maricopa County Animal Care & Control** will get a donation equaling 8% on every deal you purchase.

The more irresistible deals you buy, the more money goes to help the homeless animals of Maricopa County. It's a win-win! You save, we earn.

Just sign up at www.dailydealusa.com and enter referral code MCACC. It's that easy! Please help.

Why I Volunteer — Letters from our Volunteers

Hello, Hi everyone! My name is Sarah. I'm 25 years old, and I've been volunteering with my sister at MCACC since the middle of 2010. We spend our time at the West Shelter location, usually devoting one or two weekend days a month to the shelter.

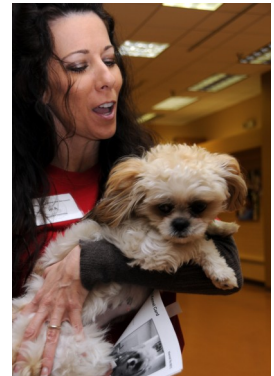
My sister loves cats, so she spends her time helping keep the kitties clean and happy. I usually spend my time working as an Adoption Counselor for both cats and dogs; helping people meet pets throughout the shelter and working with them to decide if the cat or dog is a good fit for them.

MCACC is a great volunteer opportunity for me for several reasons. I travel a lot for my job in healthcare consulting, so even though I love animals, having pets of my own is not an option. Volunteering gives me the chance to see the animals as often as I can! It's hard to describe, but to me, helping people find the newest member of their family is one of the most rewarding things I could do. The volunteer commitment is also very flexible, so I'm able to make it fit my schedule easily. If I'm unable to come into the shelter for a few weeks, it's not a problem – likewise, if I have an entire weekend available to help out, I'm always welcome.

My favorite thing to do when I volunteer is to spend time playing with the dogs. I usually spend an hour (or several!) every time I'm there just working with the dogs who maybe have been in the shelter for a while, are a little older, and would appreciate a nice run in the play area. This is also a great opportunity for shelter visitors to see how much fun these older animals can be!



If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : pets.maricopa.gov



SNAP Back On Track with Free Surgeries

Maricopa County's largest, no-cost spay/neuter program for dogs and cats is back on track.

MCACC is now giving out the Spay Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) applications at all Uno por Uno events. MCACC's non-profit partner, Friends of Animal Care & Control (Friends), providing half of the funding for this fiscal year. MCACC has been able to match the funds for this year, thanks to donations from the community.

Last year, SNAP provided more than 11,300 free spay/neuter surgeries to pets of Maricopa County residents who were experiencing financial hardship. Tough economic times have contributed to

the program's popularity as valley pet owners find ways to get their companion animals altered.

Friends and MCACC would like to thank the public for their patience during the temporary hold on the program over the past couple of months. Surgeries provided through the Spay Neuter Assistance Program are funded by donations from Friends and people like you. The cost per surgery averages \$61.

Donations for the Spay Neuter Assistance Program can be made online at www.azfaccs.org, or mailed directly to Friends of Animal Care and Control, P.O. Box 80739, Phoenix, AZ 85060.

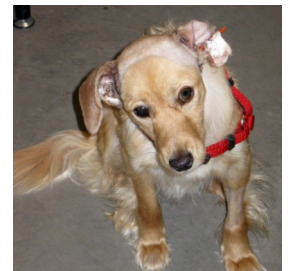
Have you ever wondered how you can help the homeless animals in Maricopa County? Volunteer at Maricopa County Animal Care & Control! This is a great way to help our furry friends. You can give back in a variety of ways: become an adoption counselor; take pictures for our website; socialize dogs and cats; and more! For additional information about MCACC or the volunteer program, please visit our website at pets.maricopa.gov.



One of the lucky cats to find a new home at MCACC this year.

Volunteers Lend a Helping Hand to Injured Dog

Honey is a 2 year old mix breed that came to the shelter after being rescued by Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. Honey was taken from an extremely abusive situation and at first glance, we thought she had a cut around the top of her head. Upon further investigation, we realized that the cut was actually a rubber band that was on so tight that it cut deep into the skin; in some parts the skin even grew over it. Honey was taken into foster care and rushed to a veterinarian who performed surgery. As it turned out there was not just ONE rubber band, but TWO! The surgery took 4 hours and Honey ended up with tubes being placed in both of her ears. The cost of the medical bills has been supported by two very dedicated MCACC volunteers! Right away, Honey was up and around, giving kisses. Everyone talked about how sweet she is constantly. Anyone that met her would just scoop her up and give her love!



Pictured above: Honey's surgery site; the sweet girl

Unfortunately, Honey is not alone in the list of abused and abandoned animals that come into our shelters every day. Thankfully, we have volunteers and foster parents who are willing to give up time and money and even suffer a broken heart to help out these creatures. Happily, Honey has found her new forever home, but there are more animals like her. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent or volunteer, please contact us at 602-506-8133.

Shelter Dog Serving the Community

Rex was found at Maricopa County Animal Care and Control. A rescue group took notice of him and thought he was something special. He sure turned out to be. Rex passed the police departments Narcotic Certificate Test. He is now proudly serving his community with his human partner. It is wonderful to see a dog that was saved from an uncertain future now may just be saving people's lives.



Help us control the pet homeless problem. Get your pet spayed or neutered!



Visit our new Pet Adoption Centers:

PetSmart Adoption Center

4380 N. Miller Road, Scottsdale

Under One Woof

9617 N. Metro Pkwy #1116, Phoenix

Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible to reach the goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

◇ How to Volunteer

◇ How to Donate

◇ Information on: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

____ I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

facebook

Like us on facebook!

<http://twitter.com/MCACCaz1>

twitter

Follow us on twitter!

<http://twitter.com/MCACCaz1>

Maricopa County Teens Get Involved

Maricopa County wants teens to be involved. In order to help them, the Maricopa County Leadership Experience (MCLE) was created. This past summer was the program's first official year (the pilot was tested summer 2010).

MCLE was designed as a self-directed, self-paced experience with activities, workshops and volunteer opportunities. Participants are between the ages of 12-17 years old and reside in Maricopa County. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from selected activities. The teens spend time and learn about local government, community and environment with different County agencies: Board of Supervisors, Teen Court, Elections, Human Services, Air Quality, Library District, Parks & Recreation, Solid Waste, Public Health, and Animal Care and Control (MCACC). They also volunteer and participate in a summer reading program as a requirement of the program.

At MCACC, teens learned about responsible pet ownership and dog bite prevention. They toured the facility and met some of our furry friends. Many participants chose to do their volunteer hours with MCACC as well. They helped clean around the shelter, and assisted in making the shelter animals have a more presentable environment.

MCLE was a great success around the County. 149 teens actively participated and 72 completed the program!!



Pictured above: MLCLE participants on tour at MCACC and meeting some animals.

Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!

- Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 8:35 a.m.
- Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.
- Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5
- You can also find them online at ktar.com

Visit One of Our Four Locations!

West Valley Care Center
2500 S. 27th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center
2630 W. 8th St.
Mesa, AZ 85201

PetSmart Charities Adoption Center
4380 N. Miller Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Under One Woof Adoption Center
9617 N. Metro Parkway #1116
Phoenix, AZ 85051

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

hollisa@mail.maricopa.gov

pets.maricopa.gov



MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets:

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Microchips
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: www.azfaccs.org

Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store

The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.



FACCs Thrift Shop

12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)
Phoenix, AZ 85022
602-923-6914

Store hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm
Tuesday and Thursday open until 6:00 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- Clothing, purses, jewelry, shoes
- Dishes, glassware, utensils
- Furniture - indoor and outdoor
- Books
- Tools
- Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please)
- Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads)
- Kitchen and office appliances
- Computers, printers, software
- Artwork
- Cell phones, PDA's

FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

